

From: BudasBrother
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

Below I have listed the top 10 reasons Microsoft is a Monopoly and why that's not a positive position for the computer industry as a whole;

01. Microsoft is smothering the IT Industry.

Microsoft's habit of taking fledgling computing platforms/applications and integrating them into the behemoth that is Microsoft, in doing so they are killing the small developer community. Microsoft is in fact slowing the IT industry by smothering the small developer. It is the small developer, the late night programmer or the back yard developer, the uni student, etc that come up with the new applications. These are the people that have a problem and solve it using their PC, with the solutions eventually moving into the mainstream if popular. As opposed to Microsoft who seems to be continually trying to find a new problem for their solution. Just look at the advances within the IT Industry over the last 20 years, how many were invented by Microsoft??? A few examples;

- GUI with Mouse type control (First display by Xerox, first adapted by Apple)
- All major Application Groups, from Word Processor to Graphics, non first developed by Microsoft.
- Multi Tasking stable OS - First on the desktop Amiga, 20 years ago.
- Internet - University based invention
- Instant Messaging - Not Microsoft
- Hotmail - MS blew alot of cash on this one to get in early.

Without the smaller more creative developer these new applications, new solutions are being created less often. Without these advances the IT industry will slow. The reasons to upgrade and continue the cycle will become less and less. By using the strategy of buying or smothering small developers Microsoft has given the whole industry a full frontal lobotomy, with a piece of barbed wire. If this seems a little paranoid, it is all spelled out in Microsoft's .Net strategy. The plan for total control.

02. Microsoft - Lawyer University

Microsoft's use of the legal system to intimidate competition, is destructive to the industry. It also makes a mockery of the legal system when a company can bank roll its own laws. I think it very irresponsible for MS to use the Legal system as a defensive manoeuvre for its market. I see the legal system as being a way of defence, not attack. There are a couple of good examples of this at the moment, the License agreement every user unknowingly agrees to, the legal attack on Lindows.

03. If Microsoft were my child.

If MS were a child someone would have put him on Ritalin years ago. They're behaviour is irresponsible and they never let anyone play with their toys.

04. My personal favourite piece of MS false advertising.

Microsoft's 'FREE' software bundles. If they do include any software with the OS and the user has paid thru the nose for the OS how can anything included with the OS be called free. Especially when you consider the work you have to put in removing all of these free pieces of software to put on the ones you want.

05. Locking Users in the Dungeon of MS

This argument has been made many times but it must be said again. By locking users into their specific brand of application (usually slow and buggy) they are limiting the user. The greatest example is Win XP. I feel sorry for users of IRC and Messaging other than Microsoft Messenger. Microsoft will say tactic is to allow quicker and more stable user experience. But the truth is that alot of the alternatives are better written with better options, that if installed would probably be quicker and smoother. Can anyone answer how I uninstall Windows Explorer from windows. Explorer is not my favourite file util but do I install the file util I like then use Explorer to start it. Does this seem a little silly to only me??? This is also effecting the small developer and IT Company.

06. Microsoft doesn't Listen.

The direction of the IT industry is driven by the consumer being given options and the most popular one wins, its a basic but honest system. The IT industry does still operate this way but with Microsoft running their monopoly instead of the people making the decision, they have taken it upon themselves to decide what it is we want. I guess until we stop giving them money hand over fist they may be justified in there position!!!!

The only way things will really change is if people get sick of MS's behaviour and move to another OS, give it 5 years.

07. Microsoft is bleeding everyone dry.

At the end of the day when all is said and done I think that really, the most destructive thing Microsoft is doing to the industry is simply bleeding it dry. The outrageous prices they charge, annual upgrades, courses and the rest of the charges you incur if you want to have any commercial contact with Microsoft are now responsible for a large percentage of the commercial running cost of any IT services within a company. If we were to take Microsoft's annual income and set-up a series of smaller companies with more specific direction you would be able to set-up 1000's of companies. The combined input into the computer industry as a whole would be far greater than Microsoft itself provides. I also infer that because the smaller companies could be more specific the quality of services/products would rise.

Yours Sincerely

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